AGNESS CUARD STATION North Side of Confluence of the Rogue and Illinois Rivers Agness Curry County Oregon HABS No. OR-154

HABS ORE, 8-AGIVES 1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTRICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94102

HISTORIC AMERIGAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

AGNESS CUARD STATION

HABS No. OR-154

Location:

At the edge of the large meadow on the north side of

confluence of the Rogue and Illinois Rivers, Agness, Curry

Gounty, Oregon.

U.T.M. Coordinates: 4712100N, 412800E

Owner:

U.S. Forest Service

Siskiyou National Forest

Grants Pass, Oregon

Historic Use:

Forest Service Ranger Station and Fire Guard Station; fire

suppression center until 1964.

Present Use:

Forest Service Cuard Station

Significance:

The Agness Guard Station is a representative example of Givilian Conservation Gorps rustic architecture employed by the U.S. Forest Service in the 1930s. The five remaining C.C.C. structures at the Agness Guard Station were built between 1933 and 1937 and include the Office (Bldg. No. 2004), the Warehouse (Bldg. No. 2207), the Grewhouse (Bldg. No. 1302), the Residence (Bldg. No. 1009), and the Wash House (Bldg. No. 1600). The Office and Residence are to be relocated to a new development site near the old location.

AGNESS GUARD STATION

The Agness Guard Station stands at the edge of the large meadow on the north side of the junction of the Rogue and Illinois rivers at Agness, Oregon. The station area, which is fenced, includes a virtual arboretum of trees found in southwestern Oregon. Many of the trees yet have old signs placed by the CCC; others have replacement signs identifying the species. Five buildings in this complex were erected by the CCC. Two of these—the residence and bunkhouse—exhibit the quality construction, materials, and design found in the Gold Beach Ranger Station. The wash house, office, and warehouse are "ordinary" and built of lesser quality materials and with less attention to design.

The Agness CCC camp was the first established in southwestern Oregon. An initial contingent of thirty men arrived at the camp in May, 1933, following training at Fort Lewis, Washington (Anonymous May 13, 1933). Several men from Curry County participated in the projects at the Agness camp. In May the CCC enrolled 17 local residents to assist in establishing the camp and transporting supplies to Agness. Among the residents of Gold Beach who provided these services were: Carl Stewart, F. M. Pennington, W. H. Wells, G. R. Jeffries, Emmett Anderson, John Reinert, Marion Bauer, Elwin Miller, Donald Rogers, Roy Metzgus, J. W. St. John, A. L. Cook, Norman Chenoweth, E. L. Cardwell, F. W. Mormon, Henry Colvin, and Harley Parker (Anonymous May 25, 1933).

During the summer of 1933 the Agness Camp was under the command of Capt. Rockwell of Fort Lewis, Washington. He was assisted by 1st Lieutenant Gentle, a medical reserve camp surgeon from Salem, Oregon, and by 2nd Lieutenant Apperson, a reserve officers from Portland, Oregon (Anonymous June 15, 1933). Although construction of the new road from Agness to Illahe occupied much of the labor expended at Agness during the summer of 1933, these crews also laid out an airport on the Jergens' place at Illahe and constructed the new Agness Guard Station (Anonymous Nov. 16, 1933).

A fifth building was constructed at the guard station in 1934 by the CCC men from Camp F45 at Agness (Anonymous July 23, 1936).





